



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

WEI WILLIAM WU, ET AL.

Application No.: 09/874,098

Filed: June 4, 2001

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS TO
FACILITATE INDEPENDENT
PROTECTION SWITCHING IN A
DISTRIBUTED NETWORK**

Art Group: 2661

Examiner: Sam, Phirin

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure, enclosed is a copy of IDS Citation Form PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449, together with copies of the documents cited on that form, except for copies not required to be submitted (e.g., copies of U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications need not be enclosed), which are being submitted on or before payment of the Issue Fee. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be considered and that the enclosed copy of PTO/SB/08 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

It is hereby stated that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a patent office in a counterpart application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual associated with the filing or prosecution of the subject application more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

03/02/2005 YPOLITE1 00000094 09874098

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The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made in the subject application and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

The fee set in the amount of \$180.00 for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 2/24/05

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number

09/874.098

Filing Date

June 4, 2001

First Named Inventor

Wei William Wu

Art Unit

2661

Examiner Name

Sam, Phirin

Attorney Docket Number

5043P010

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]Examiner
Signature

Date _____

	Not Considered	Considered
1. The number of people who are affected by the problem.		
2. The severity of the problem.		
3. The likelihood of the problem occurring.		
4. The cost of the problem.		
5. The time it takes to solve the problem.		
6. The complexity of the problem.		
7. The availability of resources to solve the problem.		
8. The impact of the problem on the organization's reputation.		
9. The potential for legal action against the organization.		
10. The overall risk to the organization.		

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Based on PTO/SB/08A (08-03) as modified by Blakely, Solokoff, Taylor & Zafman (wtr) 08/11/2003.

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